

FORM PTO-1390 REV. 5-93		US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTORNEYS DOCKET NUMBER P01,0211
TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371			U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5) 09/856888
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/SE99/02083	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE PCT/SE9/02083	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED November 30, 1998	
TITLE OF INVENTION: "DEVICE IN CONNECTION WITH PACERS"			
*APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US: ROLF HILL			
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. 2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay. 4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date. 5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been transmitted by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US) 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)). 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. §371(c)(3)) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been transmitted by the International Bureau. c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. d. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made. 8. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)). 9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)). (UNSIGNED) 10. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)). 			
Items 11. to 16. below concern other document(s) or information included:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. <input type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98; (PTO 1449, Prior Art, Search Report). 12. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 3.28 and 3.31 is included. 13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A FIRST preliminary amendment. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment. 14. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification. 15. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter. 16. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Submission of Informal Drawings and Request For Approval of Drawing Changes b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPRESS MAIL # EJ077694391US 			

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 C.F.R. 1.5) <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 5px;">09/856888</div>		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/SE99/02083		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER P01,0211	
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17. ■ The following fees are submitted: BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 C.F.R. 1.492(a)(1)-(5): Search Report has been prepared by the EPO or JPO \$860.00 International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 C.F.R. 1.482) \$590.00 No international preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 C.F.R. 1.482) but international search fee paid to USPTO (37 C.F.R. 1.445(a)(2)) \$750.00 Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 C.F.R. 1.482) nor international search fee (37 C.F.R. 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO \$1000.00 International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 C.F.R. 1.482) and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(2)-(4) \$96.00 <div style="text-align: right; font-weight: bold;">ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =</div>				CALCULATIONS		PTO USE ONLY	
				\$ 860.00			
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 C.F.R. 1.492(e)).				\$			
Claims	Number Filed	Number Extra	Rate				
Total Claims	10 - 20 =		X \$ 18.00	\$			
Independent Claims	1 - 3 =		X \$ 78.00	\$			
Multiple Dependent Claims			\$260.00 +	\$			
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				\$			
Reduction by 1/2 for filing by small entity, if applicable. Verified Small Entity statement must also be filed. (Note 37 C.F.R. 1.9, 1.27, 1.29)				\$			
SUBTOTAL =				\$ 860.00			
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).				\$			
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				\$			
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 C.F.R. 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 C.F.R. 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property (see separate envelope) +				\$			
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				\$ 860.00			
				Amount to be refunded	\$		
				charged	\$		

a. ■ A check in the amount of \$ 860.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed.

b. ☐ Please charge my Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

c. ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 501519. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 C.F.R. 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 C.F.R. 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.

SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

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SIGNATURE
 Steven H. Noll
 NAME

28,982
 Registration Number

BOX PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED OFFICE
OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY-CHAPTER II
5 **AMENDMENT "A" PRIOR TO ACTION AND SUBMISSION OF**

SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION

APPLICANT: Rolf Hill
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. P01,0211
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO: PCT/SE99/02083
10 INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: November 15, 1999
INVENTION: "DEVICE IN CONNECTION WITH PACERS"
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

15 Applicant herewith amends the above-referenced PCT application as follows, and requests entry of the Amendment prior to examination in the United States National Examination Phase.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 6 as follows:

20 6. (Amended) Locking device according to claim 1, **characterized** in that said tongues (19, 19') are formed integrally with a washer (7) with a central opening (18), said tongues extending into said opening (18) so as to define a distance that is smaller than the diameter of the male connector part to be locked in the locking device.

25 Please amend claim 9 as follows:

9. (Amended) Locking device according to claim 1, **characterized** in that said longitudinally acting device is a plunger (4) with a central bore (14), said plunger being slidable in said cylindrical part (5),

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said tongues (19, 19') being located between said end wall (8) and said plunger (4) and being seatable on said pivots.

REMARKS:

5 The present Amendment makes changes in the claims to avoid the use of multiple dependent claims for the purpose of calculating the filing fee. A more extensive Amendment conforming the specification and claims to the requirements of United States patent practice will be submitted in the near future. No new matter is added thereby.

10

Submitted by,

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Attorneys for Applicant.

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 6 as follows:

- 5 6. (Amended) Locking device according to claim 1 [anyone of the preceding claims], **characterized** in that said tongues (19, 19') are formed integrally with a washer (7) with a central opening (18), said tongues extending into said opening (18) so as to define a distance that is smaller than the diameter of the male connector part to be locked in the locking device.

- 10 Please amend claim 9 as follows:

9. (Amended) Locking device according to claim 1 [anyone of the preceding claims], **characterized** in that said longitudinally acting device is a plunger (4) with a central bore (14), said plunger being slidable in said cylindrical part (5), said tongues (19, 19') being located between said end wall (8) and said plunger (4) and being seatable on said pivots.
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BOX PCT
IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED OFFICE
OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY-CHAPTER II

SUBMISSION OF FORMAL DRAWINGS

APPLICANT: Rolf Hill
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. P01,0211
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO: PCT/SE99/02083
INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: November 15, 1999

INVENTION: "DEVICE IN CONNECTION WITH PACERS"
Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R:

Applicant herewith submits three sheets (Figs. 1-6) of formal
drawings for the above-referenced PCT application. These drawings are
also suitable for publication purposes.

Submitted by,

Steven H. Noll

(Reg. 28,982)

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Attorneys for Applicant.

Fig. 1

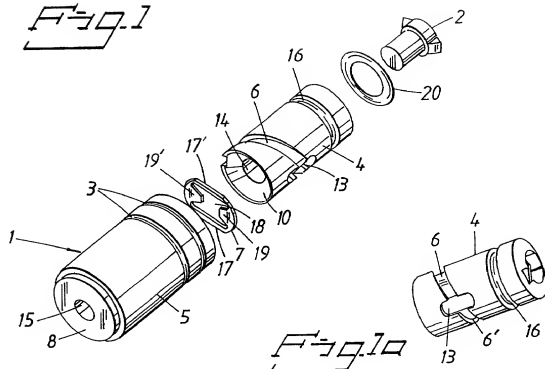
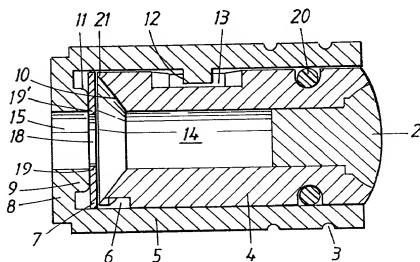


Fig. 2



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Fig. 3

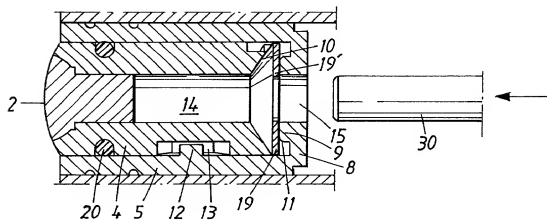
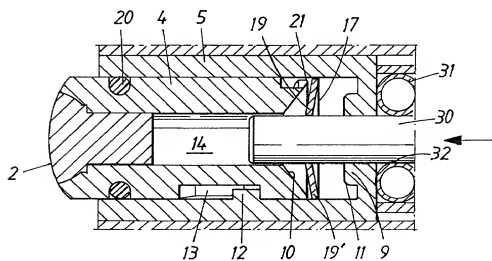


Fig. 4



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Fig. 5

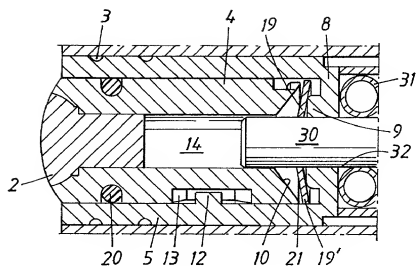
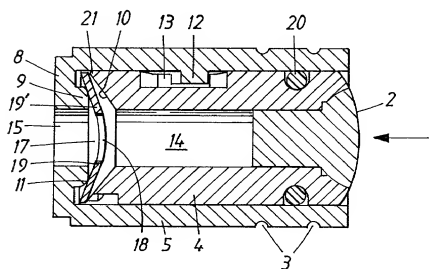


Fig. 6



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Device in connection with pacers

Field of the invention.

- 5 The present invention relates to a connector for connecting leads to a housing for an implantable pacer according to the preamble of claim 1.

Background of the invention.

- 10 A pacer system normally comprises a pulse generator located in a pacer housing, leads and electrodes at the distal end of the leads. The proximal end of the leads is connected to the pacer housing by means of a releasable connector. The
- 15 connector comprises a female connector part in the pacer housing. The proximal end of the lead normally is designed as a standardized male connector part and the female connector part normally is standardized to such an extent that it will receive this standardized male connector part.
- 20 The most common way of fixing or locking the male connector part in the female connector part is to use set screws which are oriented in an orthogonal direction in relation to the male connector part and which are accessible from the outside of the pacer housing. The female connector part
- 25 normally is located in a header molded on to the housing.

- Whilst these set screws generally have a good fixing effect, the screws are somewhat difficult to handle, the screws being small. For this reason, attempts have been made to
- 30 develop fixing means, which more or less automatically lock the male connector part upon insertion thereof.

- One such device is for instance disclosed in US A 5,252,090. This device includes two elastically resilient metal tongues
- 35 in a female connector part. The tongues are situated in a common plane and have a common central line, with a respective free end, which are located oppositely to each other. The distance between the two free ends is smaller

than the diameter of the male connector part. The tongues will be deflected into the direction of insertion when the male connector part is inserted into the female connector part and the tongues thus will engage and lock the sides of the male connector part. If the male connector part is pulled outwardly from the female connector part, the locking effect will increase. The reason is that the friction between the tongues and the male connector part will draw the tongues in closer contact with the male connector part. The two tongues are integrally connected to two wings extending through openings in the header. The wings are angled in relation to the plane of the tongues. Pressure on the wings will move the tongues out of engagement with the male connector part, which then can be removed.

In similarity with the design using set-screws, the locking means in the above design have to be accessed laterally from the outside. For this reason, the locking means are located in the header in order to avoid openings for manipulation in the parts of the housing in which the electronic parts of the pacemaker are located. Any openings for the connections in the housing or can into the interior of the housing from the header can be permanently sealed.

Another design of a device for locking the terminal pin of a male connector plug is disclosed in US-A-4,784,141. This device is designed for location in one open end of a bore through a header or through the pacer and is accessible from that end. The male plug is to be inserted through the opposite end of the bore. The locking device comprises a hollow cylindrical part with interior threads and an interior, end flange with a conical interior surface. The locking device further comprises a plug with a central bore and with external threads fitting the interior threads in the cylindrical part. The inner open end of the plug is also provided with a conical surface. A resilient locking ring with conically shaped sides is located between the respective conical surface on the plug and on the

cylindrical part. When the plug is screwed inwardly into the cylindrical part, the conical surfaces on plug and cylindrical part will compress the locking ring inwardly against a connector pin inserted into the locking part. In this way the pin is locked in the locking device.

The primary object of the invention is to provide a connector locking part of the kind described above, which can be used with standard male connector parts, which involves a positive locking effect and which does not need any lateral openings in the connector housing or the pacemaker housing. At the same time, it should be possible to easily remove the male connector part without any need of manual operations involving special tools. The object further is to provide a connector that is suitable for use in so called black holes. Black holes are connectors made directly in the pacer housing without any need for the commonly used molded-on connector parts in the form of headers. A further object is to provide a connector that will indicate visually when the male connector plug has been inserted correctly.

Short description of the inventive concept

The primary object is achieved in that a connector according to the preamble of the appended claim 1 is provided with the features set forth in the characterizing part of claim 1.

Preferred embodiments are set forth in the dependent claims.

Short description of the appended drawings.

Figs 1 - 1a illustrate the component parts of a locking device for a female connector part in accordance with the invention,

Fig 2 shows the component parts in Fig 1 in an assembled state in a section,

Fig 3 illustrates the locking device just before the insertion of a male connector pin,

- 5 Fig 4 illustrates a first locking state indicating a correct engagement,

Fig 5 illustrates a second locking state,

10

Fig 6 illustrates the opening of the locking device.

Detailed description of a preferred embodiment of the invention

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In the description below, "longitudinal" relates to the longitudinal direction of the female connector part and "outer end" relates to the end of the locking device accessible from the outside. It should also be noted that
20 all reference signs are not repeated throughout all drawings.

- The component parts of a locking part 1 for a female connector according to a preferred embodiment are shown in
25 an exploded view in Fig 1. The locking part comprises a hollow cylindrical part 5 with an end wall 8 in which a central opening 15 is located. The opening 15 is dimensioned to receive the contact pin of a standard male connector. The outside of the cylindrical part is provided with
30 circumferential grooves 3 serving as space for excess glue when the cylindrical part is glued into a female connector part.

- The locking device further comprises a locking washer 7 with
35 a central opening 18. Two locking tongues 19, 19' are located on opposite sides of the opening 18 and extend into the opening. The distance between the tips is less than the diameter of the male connector pin to be locked into the

locking device. The washer 7 has an outer shape that includes two parallel sides 17, 17'. The two parallel sides will bias the tongues towards the common plane of the washer. It should be noted that in this particular embodiment the sides have been designed to be parallel in order to define the bending force of the sides of the washer. The design may also be used for locking the washer against rotation, as will be described below in connection with an alternative embodiment.

The inside of the inner end wall is provided with a flange 9 around the opening 15. The flange has been placed in such a way that there will be a distance between the flange and the inner surface of the wall of the cylindrical part 5. The edge 11 of the flange facing the inside of the wall of the cylindrical part 5 is rounded. The flange 9 will serve as a pivot for the tongues.

The locking device further comprises a cylindrical plunger 4 fitting into the cylindrical part 5. The plunger is provided with a central bore 14 and the outside of the plunger is provided with a spiraling groove 6 intersecting a longitudinal groove 13. These grooves are intended to cooperate with an interior lug 12 located on the inside wall of the cylindrical part 5. The outer side of the outer end of the plunger 4 is provided with a peripheral groove 16 intended to sealingly hold an O-ring 20 against the inside of the cylindrical part 5. As seen in Fig 1a, a part 6' of the spiraling groove 6 passes beyond the intersection with the groove 13.

The inside of the inner end of the plunger 4 is provided with a conical surface 10, the wall of the plunger 4 thus tapering into a peripheral edge 21.

The outer end of the longitudinal bore of the plunger 4 is closed by means of a plug 2. The opening in the bore is

enlarged by means of a slit permitting the insertion of a screwdriver or an equivalent tool.

In the assembled state, illustrated in Figs 2 - 6, the
5 plunger 4 will keep the washer 7 in the vicinity of the flange 9. The plunger will be held in the cylindrical part 5 by means of the longitudinal slot 13, which permits a limited longitudinal movement.

10 The locking device is simple to assemble. The procedure only comprises the steps of:

- placing the washer 7 in the cylindrical part 5,
- mounting the sealing ring 20 in the groove 16 on the
15 plunger 4,
- engaging the lug 12 in the slot 6 and turning the plunger until the lug 12 is located in the longitudinal slot 13.

The locking device 1 can be glued, welded or otherwise
20 bonded into a tubular connector. The device of course also can be molded into a header.

A male connector pin 30 to be locked into the locking device 1 is inserted through the opening 15 in the end wall 8 as
25 illustrated in Fig 3. As seen in Fig 4, the plunger 4 in this particular embodiment can move outwards together with the washer 7 when the pin 30 engages the washer 7. The outward movement is limited by the lug 12 engaging the inner end of the slot 13. In the case in which the locking device
30 is located in a through hole flush with the outer surface of the pacer in which it is to be mounted, the outward movement will be an indication that the male connector pin 30 has been correctly inserted, see Fig 4.

35 Since the distance between the tips of the two tongues 19, 19' is less than the diameter of the pin 30, the tongues will be bent in the direction of insertion and consequently form an angle with the surface of the pin. The spring bias

of the two parallel sides of the washer will urge the tongues into contact with the pin. The length and the stiffness of the tongues is such that the tongues in principle cannot swing past the plane of the washer, The pin 5 therefore will be locked behind the end wall 8 against withdrawal from the connector.

When the pin has been fully inserted, the plunger 4 can be pushed back into the cylindrical part 5 so as to be flush with the outside of the housing as indicated in Fig 5.

If the pin 15 is to be disconnected, the plunger 4 is pushed inwardly, the inner peripheral edge 21 engaging the peripheral ends of the washer 7 as illustrated in Fig 6. As a consequence, the tongues 19, 19' will swing around the flange and release the pin. The pin with lead then easily can be withdrawn.

The removal of the male pin 30 from the connector can be facilitated by removing the plug 2 from the plunger and screwing the plunger into the cylindrical part 5 by means of the groove 6'. The plunger 4 thus will deflect the tongues 19, 19' from the pin. The pitch of the groove is chosen such that the plunger 4 will remain in the rotational position of the screwed-in state in spite of the outward force exerted by the deformed washer 7. The pin then can be pushed out from the connector by means of a suitable tool that can be inserted through the opening of the bore 14.

30 It should be noted that, in the above embodiment, the washer is not locked against rotation. If however the washer is locked against rotation, it will be possible to locate the tongues (excluding the remaining parts of the washer) on a stud each instead on a circular flange. The studs also will
35 serve as pivots for the tongues. In this case the force needed to swing the tongues out of engagements with the pin would be less, given that the dimensions of the washer remains the same (the spring bias of the tongues into

engagement with the pin would however not be affected). In this embodiment the studs are located opposite each other adjacent the central opening 15. The inner side of the wall of the cylindrical part adjacent the studs is shaped to conform to the outer peripheral shape of the washer 7, thus also having two parallel sides in cross-section. The parallel sides are parallel to a center-line drawn through the two studs. In this way, the washer will be locked against rotation when the washer is located on the studs.

10

In this particular embodiment the inner part of the outside of the plunger would have to have a shape corresponding to the inner shape of the cylindrical part 5. Although the plunger still could be mounted in the cylindrical part by means of a spiraling groove, the option of opening the locking device by rotating the plunger discussed in connection with the above embodiment would be excluded. If this option also were desirable, the means for locking the washer against rotation would have to be located within the outer periphery of the washer and extend past the washer. The inside of the plunger would have to be hollowed to accommodate these means in order to allow the free rotation of the plunger to its innermost location.

25 The electrical connections from the female connector to the pulse generator are not a part of the present invention and thus are not shown in detail. The connections may for instance be made through circular springs 31 engaging the contact surfaces 32 on the male connector 30, as for instance indicated in Fig 5. These rings are in turn connected to the interior of the pacer.

The cylindrical part 5 and the plunger 4 may be made of any suitable biocompatible material used in pacers, as for instance metals such as titanium, stainless steel, NP-35 alloy, or ceramics such as Al_2O_3 , or of plastics such as macrolon, epoxy resin etc. The two parts may be made of the same material or of different materials. The tongues and

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washer preferably is made of titanium, stainless steel or NP-35, but other biocompatible materials having a comparable resilience may of course be used.

- 5 The invention of course can be varied in many ways within the scope of the appended claims. In the above embodiments, the washer has been described as having two tongues. It is however quite possible to use only one tongue or more than two tongues. The tongues have been illustrated as being part
10 of a resilient washer, but they may of course be associated with separate springs for instance formed integrally with said tongues. The cylindrical part has been illustrated as a separate part, but may of course be an integral part of a pacer housing or header. In the widest sense, the plunger
15 may be any device transferring a pushing force for the exterior of the pacer to the peripheral parts of the washer.

- The male connector part has been illustrated above as being a standard IS-1 male connector with a complementary female
20 connector. The male connector part of course could be of any kind having an elongate shape, the female connector part having a corresponding complementary shape.

Claims

1. Locking device (1) for a female connector part for cooperation with an elongate, male connector part (30), said
5 female connector part being intended for use in a pacer housing, said female connector part comprising a longitudinal bore defining a longitudinal space for said locking device, said locking device comprising one or several tongues (19, 19'), said tongues (19, 19') being
10 swingable between two positions, a first position in which the tips of the tongues (19, 19') can engage said male elongate connector part (30) and a second position in which the tips of the tongues (19, 19') will not engage the male elongate connector part (30), said tongues being biased
15 towards said first position by means of a spring force, **characterized** in that a pivot (9) is associated with each tongue, each tongue having a first part being located on one side of said pivot and engaging said connector means (30), a second part being located on the other side of said pivot,
20 longitudinally acting means (4) being provided to act on said second part of said tongues for actuating said tongues (19, 19') from said first position against said bias to said second position.
- 25 2. Locking device according to claim 1, **characterized** in that said locking means (1) comprises a hollow cylindrical part (5) with an end wall (8) having a central opening (15).
- 30 3. Locking device according to claim 2, **characterized** in that said pivot (9) is located inside said opening (15) adjacent said opening (15).
4. Locking device according to claim 3, **characterized** in that said pivot is in the form of a flange surrounding said
35 opening (15).
5. Locking device according to claim 3, **characterized** in that said pivots (9) are in the form of a stud for each

tongue, said studs located adjacent said opening on the inner side of said wall (8).

6. Locking device according to anyone of the preceding claims, **characterized** in that said tongues (19, 19') are formed integrally with a washer (7) with a central opening (18), said tongues extending into said opening (18) so as to define a distance that is smaller than the diameter of the male connector part to be locked in the locking device.
7. Locking device according to claim 6, **characterized** in that two tongues (19, 19') are provided, said tongues being located opposite to each other.
8. Locking device according to claim 6, **characterized** in that three or more tongues (19, 19') are provided, said tongues being located symmetrically around the circumference of said washer.
9. Locking device according to anyone of the preceding claims, **characterized** in that said longitudinally acting device is a plunger (4) with a central bore (14), said plunger being slidable in said cylindrical part (5), said tongues (19, 19') being located between said end wall (8) and said plunger (4) and being seatable on said pivots.
10. Locking device according to claim 9, **characterized** in that said plunger is provided with a peripheral edge (21) acting on the peripheral part of said tongues.

Fig. 1

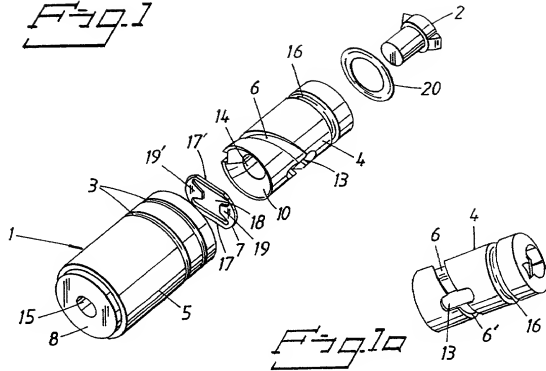
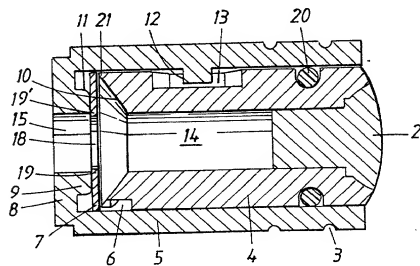


Fig. 1a

Fig. 2



2 / 3

Fig. 3

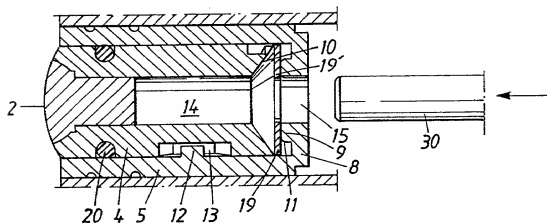
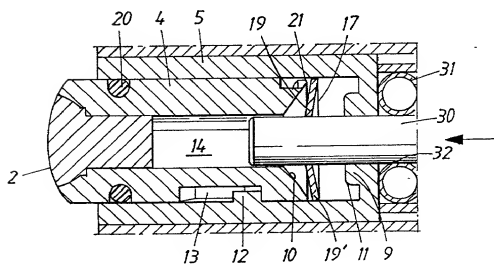


Fig. 4



3 / 3

Fig. 5

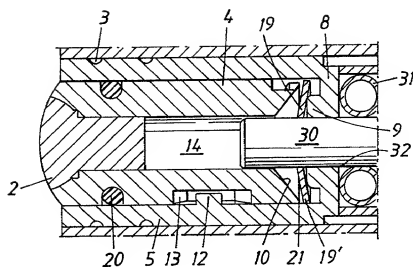
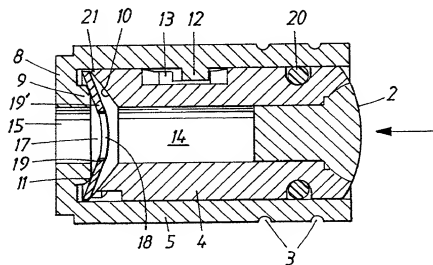


Fig. 6



COMBINED DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
(Includes Reference to PCT International Applications)

ATTORNEY'S
DOCKET NUMBER
P01,0211

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.
I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

the specification of which (check only one item below):

- ☐ Is attached hereto.
- ☒ was filed as United States application
Serial No. 09/856,888
on May 29, 2001
and was amended
on May 29, 2001 (if applicable).
- ☐ was filed as PCT international application
Number _____
on _____
and was amended under PCT Article 19
on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the content of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed:

PRIOR FOREIGN/PCT APPLICATION(S) AND ANY PRIORITY CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119:

COUNTRY (if PCT indicate "PCT")	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 USC 119
Sweden	98014138-7	30.11.98	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

Combined Declaration For Patent Application and Power of Attorney (Continued)
(Includes Reference to PCT International Applications)

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.
P01,0211

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) or PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America that is/are listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in that/those prior application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

PRIOR U.S. APPLICATIONS OR PCT INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS DESIGNATING THE U.S. FOR BENEFIT UNDER 35 U.S.C. 120:

U.S. APPLICATIONS			STATUS (Check one)		
U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER	U.S. FILING DATE	PATENTED	PENDING	ABANDONE D	
PCT APPLICATIONS DESIGNATING THE U.S.					
PCT APPLICATION NO	PCT FILING DATE	U.S. SERIAL NUMBERS ASSIGNED (if any)			

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith.

And I hereby appoint all Attorneys identified by the United States Patent & Trademark Office Customer Number 26574, who are all members of the firm of Schiff, Hardin & Waite.

Send Correspondence to: **SCHIFF, HARDIN & WAITE**
Patent Department
6600 Floor Sears Tower, Chicago, Illinois 60606
Customer Number 26574

Direct Telephone Calls to:
312/258-5790

2 0 1	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME HILL	FIRST GIVEN NAME ROLF	SECOND GIVEN NAME
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY Järfälla	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY Sweden	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Sweden
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS Gösvägen 8	CITY S-175 55 Järfälla	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY S-175 55 Järfälla Sweden
2 0 2	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME	FIRST GIVEN NAME	SECOND GIVEN NAME
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	CITY	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY
2 0 3	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME	FIRST GIVEN NAME	SECOND GIVEN NAME
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	CITY	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 201	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 202	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 203
DATE	DATE	DATE

COMBINED DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
(Includes Reference to PCT International Applications)

ATTORNEY'S
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My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,
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the specification of which (check only one item below):

- ☐ is attached hereto.
- ☐ was filed as United States application
Serial No. _____
on _____,
and was amended
on _____ (if applicable).
- ☒ was filed as PCT international application
Number _____ PCT/SE99/02083
on _____ November 15, 1999
and was amended under PCT Article 19
on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contest of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

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			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

